

CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: OCTOBER 29, 2021

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

COVID-19 Case Information for Wellesley



Wellesley Health officials continue to monitor COVID-19 cases in our community. Data from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) shows 40 new cases in Wellesley in the past 14 days. Wellesley's percent positivity rate remains at .66% with no change in the past two weeks. Thank you to all residents for continuing to follow current

indoor mask advisories and the <u>emergency order</u> requiring masks when indoors in municipal buildings, and for avoiding situations that could result in COVID-19 exposure or transmission. This is helping keep our community at moderate risk levels.

A reminder that COVID-19 data is updated weekly on Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

State Extends Schools Mask Mandate

The Commissioner of Education announced this week that the mask mandate for schools has been extended until January 15, 2022. Read <u>the statement from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)</u> regarding this announcement.

For Wellesley Public Schools COVID-19 information, visit the <u>WPS COVID Case Tracking Dashboard</u> on the WPS website and linked on the Wellesley COVID-19 Information Hub.

COVID-19 Boosters and Vaccines for Children

COVID-19 boosters are available for eligible adults at many local pharmacies and physician offices. You may get a booster if you are:

- Age 65+
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ who live or work in high-risk settings

Visit <u>vaxfinder.mass.gov</u> to find vaccine locations and schedule shots. For detailed information on boosters and mixing vaccines, see this <u>Wellesley Health Department flyer.</u>

Late today, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) <u>approved the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine for children</u> ages 5 to 11 years old. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) still needs to sign off and is expected to do soon. Once the eligibility window opens, Wellesley Public Schools is hoping to offer vaccination clinics for children in the coming weeks. If you have questions about vaccines for children, please consult your pediatrician or family physician.

Flu Shots for Senior Citizens

The Health Department and Council on Aging are offering flu shot appointments for senior citizens on Monday, November 8 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tolles Parsons Center. You must REGISTER IN ADVANCE to receive a shot. Call the COA at 781-235-3961 to schedule an appointment.

No Recreation Department Halloween Stroll

Due to a forecast for inclement weather, the Recreation Department Halloween Stroll scheduled for Saturday, October 30, 2021 has been cancelled. No make up date is planned. Happy Halloween!